

## CLAIMS

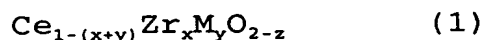
1. A catalytic converter for cleaning exhaust gas comprising  
a first coating layer formed on a heat-resistant support, and  
5 a second coating layer formed on the first coating layer,

wherein the first coating layer contains alumina which  
supports palladium, and

wherein the second coating layer contains Ce-Zr complex  
oxide which coexistently carries platinum and rhodium, and Zr-Ce  
10 complex oxide which differs in composition from the Ce-Zr  
complex oxide and which coexistently carries platinum and  
rhodium.

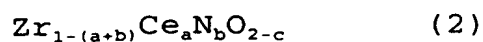
2. The exhaust gas cleaning catalytic converter according to  
15 claim 1,

wherein the Ce-Zr complex oxide is represented by the  
following general formula:



in the formula (1), M represents a rare earth element other than  
20 Ce and Zr or an alkaline earth metal, z represents the degree  
of oxygen deficiency determined by the valence and proportion  
of the contained element M,  $0.25 \leq 1-(x+y) \leq 1.0$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq 0.55$ , and  
 $0 \leq y \leq 0.2$ ; and

wherein the Zr-Ce complex oxide is represented by the  
25 following general formula:



in the formula (2), N represents a rare earth element other than

Ce and Zr or an alkaline earth metal, c represents the degree of oxygen deficiency determined by the valence and proportion of the contained element N,  $0.55 \leq 1 - (a+b) \leq 1.0$ ,  $0 \leq a \leq 0.45$ , and  $0 \leq b \leq 0.2$ .

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3. The exhaust gas cleaning catalytic converter according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the second coating layer has a surface layer portion which coexistently carries platinum and rhodium.

10 4. The exhaust gas cleaning catalytic converter according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the second coating layer has a surface layer portion which carries one of platinum and rhodium alone.

15 5. The exhaust gas cleaning catalytic converter according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the first coating layer additionally contains barium salt of an inorganic acid.

20 6. The exhaust gas cleaning catalytic converter according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the first coating layer supports 30~100g of alumina and 0.5~8.0g of palladium per liter of the heat-resistant support.

7. The exhaust gas cleaning catalytic converter according to any one of claims 1 to 6,

25 wherein the Ce-Zr complex oxide carries a total amount of 0.3~3.0g of platinum and rhodium per liter of the heat-resistant support, and

wherein the Zr-Ce complex oxide carries a total amount of 1.0~3.0g of platinum and rhodium per liter of the heat-resistant support.

- 5 8. The exhaust gas cleaning catalytic converter according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the surface layer portion of the second coating layer carries a total amount of 0.05~2.0g of platinum and rhodium per liter of the heat-resistant support.
- 10 9. The exhaust gas cleaning catalytic converter according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the first coating layer additionally contains Ce-Zr complex oxide which does not carry any precious metal.
- 15 10. The exhaust gas cleaning catalytic converter according to any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the second coating layer additionally contains alumina which does not support any precious metal.